

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated January 28, 2004, Applicants submit the following remarks. Claims 1-20 were pending. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13, 15-16, and 18 have been amended. Claims 21-27 have been added. Claims 1-27 are now pending, of which claims 1, 6, 11, 15, and 18 are independent. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the action dated January 28, 2004, is requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner has rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by "Intermediaries: new places for producing and manipulating Web content" by Barrett and Maglio ("Barrett"). The Examiner has rejected claims 6-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Barrett in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,752, 022 ("Chiu"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Section 112 Rejection

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The Examiner states that "the central storage" lacks antecedent basis. Applicants have amended claim 13 to include "a central storage" and respectfully submit that the § 112 rejection to claim 13 has been overcome.

Section 102(b) rejections

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to an information retrieval system that serves to retrieve information requested by a client machine from a remote server via a network and includes at least one third-party application plug-in to filter a response to render at least one feature available at the client machine. Barrett does not disclose or suggest at least one third-party plug-in to filter a response as claimed.

Barrett does disclose the creation of different objects from a combination of building blocks, which he describes as plug-ins. *See* page 513, paragraph prior to section 3.3. Specifically, Barrett discloses a cookie manager and a plug-in for improving wireless performance. *See* page 513 section 3.3.1 and page 514 section 3.3.2. However, the plug-ins described by Barrett are different from the claimed application plug-ins. The plug-ins in Barrett

are not application plug-ins, which filter a response to render at least one feature available at the client machine which would otherwise require a corresponding plug-in on the client.

Barrett does not disclose or suggest an application plug-in that renders at least one feature at the client without requiring a counterpart plug-in at the client. Applicants submit that claim 1, as well as claims 2-5, which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance for at least these reasons.

Section 103(a) Rejections

Claim 6, as amended, is directed to an intermediary server system that includes a session manager that manages a communication session between the client machines and the intermediary server system. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest a session manager that manages a communication session between client machines and an intermediary server.

The Examiner argues that Barrett discloses a session manager at page 515, 1st paragraph. Applicants disagree. The cited section of page 515 describes a workgroup configuration where a WBI proxy is connected to several client machines. Barrett states that different client users can be individually identified in order to keep the users of the proxy device separate or provide custom configurations. *See* Barrett page 515, 1st paragraph. However, Barrett does not disclose or suggest a session manager as claimed that manages communications between clients and an intermediary server. The session manager provides information on the current state of a communication session between a client and the intermediary server, which is different from Barrett's proxy configuration that separates different workgroup users and does not provide state information. Additionally, Chiu does not disclose or suggest a session manager as claimed that manages communications between client machines and an intermediary server as claimed. Applicants submit that claim 6, as well as claims 7-10, which depend from claim 6, are in condition for allowance for at least these reasons.

Claim 9, as amended, is directed to an intermediary server system and includes a history manager that uniquely stores each resource identified by one or more of a URL, a host name, a path, a timestamp, and a file reference. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest a history manager that uniquely stores each resource as claimed.

The Examiner argues that Barrett teaches a history manager at page 509, abstract and page 510, paragraph on document caching. Applicants disagree. In the abstract on page 509, Barrett states that intermediaries can be used to construct application including personal histories. The abstract does not disclose or suggest the claimed history manager that uniquely stores each resource. On page 510, Barrett discloses document caching on an intermediary in which the intermediary cache is checked to see if document requests can be fulfilled by stored web pages. However, Barrett only discloses a generic cache and does not disclose the claimed history manager that uniquely stores resources. Further, Barrett does not disclose or suggest the claimed information stored by the history manager includes a URL, hostname, timestamp, and file reference. Additionally, Chiu does not disclose or suggest a history manager as claimed. Applicants submit that, for at least the foregoing additional reasons, claim 9 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 10, as amended, is directed to an intermediary server system that includes an application plug-in framework that facilitates incorporating at least one application plug-in within the intermediary server system to provide additional functionality. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest the claimed application plug-in framework that facilitates incorporating at least one application plug-in within the intermediary server system to provide additional functionality. For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 10 is also in condition for allowance.

Claim 11, as amended, is directed to a method for processing resource requests received at an intermediary server via a network that includes processing the response through a third-party application plug-in. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest processing the response through a third-party application plug-in as claimed. For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 11, as well as claims 12-14, which depend from claim 11, are in condition for allowance.

Claim 15, as amended, is directed to a method for processing a resource request received at an intermediary server via a network that includes managing a communication session between client machines or their users and the intermediary server system. Neither Barrett nor

Chiu disclose or suggest managing a communication session between client machines and the intermediary server as claimed. For at least the reasons set forth with respect to claim 6, claim 15, as well as claims 16-17, which depend from claim 15, are in condition for allowance.

Claim 18, as amended, is directed to a computer readable medium including at least computer program code for processing resource requests received at an intermediary server via a network that includes processing the response including processing the response through at least one third-party application plug-in. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest processing a response through at least one third-party application plug-in as claimed. For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1, claim 18, as well as claim 19, which depends from claim 18, is in condition for allowance.

New Claims

Claims 21-27 have been added. Claim 21 is directed to an information retrieval system that includes a third-party application plug-in operable to remove data from the response. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest the removal of data from a response at an intermediate server as claimed. Applicants submit that claim 21 is allowable.

Claim 22 is directed to an information retrieval system that includes an intermediate server that receives requests from a plurality of client networks. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest an intermediate server that receives requests from a plurality of client networks as claimed. Applicants submit that claim 22 is allowable.

Claim 23 is directed to an information retrieval system that includes an intermediate server that returns responses to a plurality of client networks. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest an intermediate server as claimed that returns responses to a plurality of client networks. Applicants submit that claim 23 is allowable.

Claim 24 is directed to an information retrieval system that serves to retrieve information requested by a client machine from a remote server via a network and includes more than one third-party application plug-in installed on an intermediate server and arranged in series to filter responses. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest more than one third-party application plug-in arranged in series to filter responses as claimed.

Barrett does disclose the creation of different plug-ins from a combination of building blocks. *See* page 513, paragraph prior to section 3.3. Specifically, Barrett discloses a cookie manager and a plug-in for improving wireless performance. *See* page 513 section 3.3.1 and page 514 section 3.3.2. However, Barrett does not disclose or suggest a system that includes more than one plug-in. Furthermore, Barrett does not disclose or suggest an arrangement of third-party plug-ins such that the plug-ins process responses in series as claimed. Applicants submit that claim 24 is allowance.

Claim 25 is directed to an intermediary server system that includes a web server that receives requests from client machines located on a plurality of client networks. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest a web server as claimed that receives requests from client machines located on a plurality of client networks. Applicants submit that claim 25 is allowable.

Claim 26 is directed to an intermediary server system that includes returning modified resources to client machines located on a plurality of client networks. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest returning modified resources to client machines located on a plurality of client networks as claimed. Applicants submit that claim 26 is allowable.

Claim 27 is directed to a computer readable medium that includes processing the response in series through a plurality of third-party application plug-ins. Neither Barrett nor Chiu disclose or suggest processing a response in series through a plurality of third-party plug-ins as claimed. For at least the same reasons as in claim 26, claim 27 is also allowable.

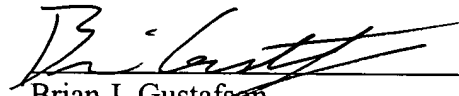
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Applicants respectfully request that all pending claims be allowed. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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